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FACSIMILE NO.: 703/872-9306
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OUR REF.: HARD1.003A
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MESSAGE: Attached is the proposed amendment for your review before our interview tomorrow. We have amended Claim 55 and have also provided an alternate amended Claim 55. Claim 61 is new.

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PROPOSED INDEPENDENT CLAIMS "G3"

55. (Proposed Amendment) A building material, comprising:
a first component, wherein the first component comprises a pre-formed fiber cement layer ~~that is reinforced with fibers~~ having a density of between about 53 to 115 lb/ft³;

a second component positioned adjacent the first component, wherein at least a portion of one of the components forms interpenetrating mechanical and chemical bonding with the other component;

~~wherein the pre-formed fiber cement layer is capable of retaining a substantially planar configuration prior to being positioned adjacent the second component, wherein the pre-formed fiber cement layer remains flexible for a period of time after being positioned adjacent the second component.~~

55. (Proposed Amendment) A building material, comprising:
a first component wherein the first component comprises a pre-formed fiber cement layer comprising about 5-12 wt.% fiber;

a second component positioned adjacent the first component, wherein at least a portion of one of the components ~~forms interpenetrating mechanical and chemical bonding with~~ is bonded to the other component;

~~wherein the pre-formed fiber cement layer is capable of retaining a substantially planar configuration prior to being positioned adjacent the second component, wherein the pre-formed fiber cement layer remains flexible for a period of time after being positioned adjacent the second component.~~

61. (New) A building material, comprising:

a first component comprising a fiber cement material;

a second component positioned adjacent the first component, wherein at least a portion of the second component extends into the first component to form mechanical bonding with the first component, wherein the first component does not extend into the second component.